

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are presently active; Claim 9 having been canceled without prejudice, and Claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 having been amended. No new matter has been added.¹

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 2 was objected to due to informalities. Claims 4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 10-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamashita (U.S. Pat. No. 4,303,298). Claims 7, 9, 12, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma (U.S. Pat. No. 6,225,244). Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,668,066). Claims 17-22 were indicated as being allowed.

Firstly, although the outstanding Office Action states that Claims 17-24 were allowed, it is respectfully submitted that the allowed claims should be corrected as Claims 17-22. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 17-22.

Regarding the objection to the Claim 2, the Claim 2 has been amended to address the informalities. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the Claim 2 has been overcome.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 4, Claim 4 has been amended to more particularly point out that a thickness of the glass, at which the glass exhibits a property that wavelength at which a 50 percent transmittance is exhibited is 615 nm, is in the range of from 0.1 to 0.8 mm. Further, Claim 4 has been amended to more particularly point out that the thickness for the transmittances measured at 400 nm, 800-1000 nm, and 1200

¹ For example, Specification, at page 11, lines 1-7, at page 15, lines 4-14, and at page 27, lines 11-24.

nm is the thickness at which the glass exhibits a property that wavelength at which a 50 percent transmittance is exhibited is 615 nm. Namely, the thickness having 50% transmittance at 615 nm is the same thickness for the transmittances measured at 400 nm, 800-1000 nm, and 1200 nm. Regarding the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection to Claims 7, Claim 7 has been amended to be included the features of the original Claim 9 to set forth a specific composition for the material. Further, Claim 7 has been amended to more particularly point out that wavelength, at which a 50 percent transmittance is exhibited, is shorter than 630nm. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection has been overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamashita, the independent Claims 1, 4, and 7 have been amended to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, and thereby clearly patentably distinguish over Yamashita as discussed below.

Firstly, the amended independent Claims 1, 4, and 7 recite that the glass is fluorophosphates glass essentially comprising no arsenic and lead. Instead, Yamashita fails to teach or suggest that the glass is fluorophosphates glass essentially comprising no arsenic and lead.

Additionally, the outstanding Office Action states that overlapping ranges have been held to establish *prima facie* obviousness (MPEP § 2144.05). However, MPEP § 2131 also requires, to establish *prima facie* obviousness, that the prior art reference must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Yamashita does not disclose the overlapping ranges corresponding to all compositional and property limitations of the Claims 1, 4, and 7.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the independent Claims 1, 4, and 7 and the pending Claims 2, 5- 6, and 10-16 dependent from Claims 1, 4, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamashita has been overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 7, 9, 12, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma, the independent Claim 7 has been amended to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, and thereby clearly patentably distinguishes over Oguma as discussed below.

The amended independent Claim 7 recites that the glass is fluorophosphates glass essentially comprising no arsenic and lead. Instead, Oguma fails to teach or suggest that the glass is fluorophosphates glass essentially comprising no arsenic and lead.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the independent Claim 7 and the pending Claims 9, 12, 15, and 16 dependent from Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma has been overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma et al., the independent Claim 1, 4, and 7 have been amended to expedite issuance of a patent from the present application, and thereby clearly patentably distinguish over Oguma et al as discussed below.

The amended independent Claims 1, 4, and 7 recite that the glass is fluorophosphates glass essentially comprising no arsenic and lead. Instead, Oguma et al. fails to teach or suggest that the glass is fluorophosphates glass essentially comprising no arsenic and lead.

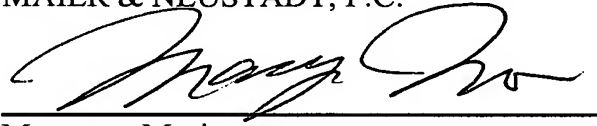
Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the independent Claim 1, 4, and 7 and the pending Claims 2-3, 5-6, and 8-16 dependent from Claims 1, 4, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguma et al. has been overcome.

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Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Masayasu Mori', is written over a horizontal line.

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